



Jim Parsons, Taylor Kitsch Join HBO Cast of The Normal Heart

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Jim Parsons and Taylor Kitsch are the latest big names to join the cast of the HBO film adaptation of *The Normal Heart*, Deadline Hollywood reports. The 1985 off-Broadway play by Larry Kramer, set in New York City at the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, won Best Revival of a Play at the 2011 Tony Awards. Parsons, currently starring in the sitcom *The Big Bang Theory*, will play gay activist Tommy Boatwright, reprising his role from the 2011 Broadway revival. Kitsch, of *John Carter* and *Friday Night Lights*, will play Bruce Niles, a closeted investment banker who becomes an AIDS activist. The cast already includes Julia Roberts, Mark Ruffalo and Matt Bomer. Kramer is writing the screenplay, and Ryan Murphy is directing.

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